DC

6

HARLEY QUINN

PHILLIPS
BRAGA
PRIANTO

AGES 13+
DCCOMICS.COM

Will the shocking truth of his heritage save him...or destroy him?

BLACK MANTA

™ & © DC

DC

A 6-Issue Series
September

Written by
CHUCK BROWN

Art by
VALENTINE DE LANDRO

ALLEYTOWN.

I DON'T HATE CATS...

I SAID SORRY!

BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN **COMFORTABLE** AROUND 'EM EITHER.

HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR STUPID **CURFEW**?!

I MEAN, NEVER MIND THOSE STORIES ABOUT CATS EATIN' THEIR OWNERS' DEAD BODIES OR WHATEVER...

BUT THOSE ADORABLY **STANDOFFISH** BALLS OF FUR ARE **MORE** JUDGMENTAL THAN MY JEWISH MOTHER.

AN ACTUAL ALLEY...

CATS JUST LOOK AT YOU WITH THOSE SPOOKY DEAD EYES AND I'M NOT SURE IF THEY'RE **DISAPPOINTED** IN MY LIFE CHOICES OR ASKIN' FOR A SAUCER OF MILK.

I GUESS I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MORE OF A DOG PERSON. OR, WELL, **HYENA PERSON.**

...OBVIOUS SYMBOLISM REALLY SUCKS.

I LIKE **UNCONDITIONAL LOVE** FROM MY PETS. OH, AND TRAININ' THEM TO DO COOL TRICKS.

I'M WHAT YOU'D CALL A **CONTACT** HITTER, BOYS.

DROP THE WEAPON!

I ONCE TRAINED BUD AND LOU TO GO GET THE MAIL FOR ME...

...BUT I GUESS THEY THOUGHT I SAID **MAILMAN...**

...OR, MORE SPECIFICALLY, THE MAILMAN'S **LEFT FOOT.**

BUT, YEAH, CATS...THEY DON'T REALLY **LIKE** YOU, DO THEY?

TOLERATE IS A BETTER WORD...

...IF YOU'RE LUCKY.

CATWOMAN!!

CAT & QUINN

STEPHANIE PHILLIPS WRITER
LAURA BRAGA ARTIST
ARIF PRIANTO COLORS
ANDWORLD DESIGN LETTERS
RILEY ROSSMO COVER
DERRICK CHEW VARIANT COVER
SUICIDE SQUAD VARIANT COVER BY **RICCARDO FEDERICI**
BEN ABERNATHY EDITOR

HARLEY QUINN CREATED BY **PAUL DINI** AND **BRUCE TIMM**

YOU ALWAYS MAKE THE *BEST* ENTRANCES.

OOF!

THWAAP

SHE'S GONNA HAVE TO SHOW ME THAT MOVE LATER...

WHAK

KRAK

HOLY $*€#!

I *TOTALLY* FORGOT ABOUT THAT THING YOU DO WITH THE WHIP AND THE...AND THE COOL FLYIN' ARMBAR MOVE...

...I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SEL--

HEY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN ALLEYTOWN, HARLEY?

ENGAGIN' IN A LITTLE *FOREPLAY,* APPARENTLY.

IT'S A GOOD THING PAMMY'S *ALREADY* GREEN OR SHE'D BE--

OW!

YOU HAVE THIRTY SECONDS BEFORE I LEAVE YOU TO THE NEXT WAVE OF THE MAGISTRATE'S *DOGS.*

DOGS. THAT'S A GOOD ONE, SELINA. IT'S FUNNY BECAUSE...

HARLEY...

ALL RIGHT...ALL RIGHT, YEESH, IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU MEET UP WITH A WOMAN IN A SKINTIGHT CATSUIT WIELDING A WHIP.

SO, *FUNNY STORY*...I'M TRACKING A SHIPMENT OF DRUGS THAT'S GOING TO HUGO STRANGE'S NEW FACILITY IN GOTHAM.

HE'S BEEN INJECTIN' THE JOKER'S FORMER CLOWNS WITH SOME KINDA COCKTAIL AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN COMIN' FROM SOMEWHERE IN YOUR PART OF TOWN.

I'M TRYIN' TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S IN IT, BUT THEN THOSE SOLDIER BOTS STARTED YELLIN' AT ME AND KEVIN TOLD ME I SHOULDN'T COME HERE ALONE BUT...

OH! YOU HAVEN'T MET KEVIN YET BUT I KNOW YOU TWO'D HIT IT OFF. HE'S ***GREAT.***

MAYBE WE COULD ALL MEET FOR BRUNCH...OR COCKTAILS...BUT NOT THE KIND HUGO'S USING, OF COURSE, THE KIND THAT--

MY FAULT FOR ASKING...LET ME ***REPHRASE.***

I HONESTLY DON'T ***CARE*** WHY YOU'RE HERE, HARLEY...

...AS LONG AS YOU'RE NOT IN ***MY*** WAY.

ALLEYTOWN IS ON LOCKDOWN AND I HAVE ***ENOUGH*** TO DEAL WITH WITHOUT YOU HERE.

HOWEVER YOU GOT ***INTO*** THE CITY...YOU NEED TO GET ***OUT.***

WAIT...I COULD REALLY USE YOUR HELP, SELINA. YOU KNOW ALLEYTOWN BETTER THAN ANYONE.

PLEASE.

YOU WOULDN'T BE HELPING ***ME*** AS MUCH AS YOU'D BE HELPING ALL THE PEOPLE WHO NEED HELP. YOU KNOW...LIKE A ***HERO.***

THAT'S NOT WHO I AM.

WHILE THE PSYCHOLOGIST IN ME ***REALLY*** WANTS TO UNPACK THAT WITH YOU...

...I NEED TO FIND OUT WHERE THOSE DRUGS ARE COMIN' FROM.

LOOK, I KNOW THIS IS YOUR TERRITORY AND ALL, AND I'M NOT TRYIN' TO STEP ON YOUR PAWS...

...BUT I CAN'T KEEP LETTING THOSE DRUGS INTO GOTHAM.

SO WHADDYA SAY...***TEAM UP?***

HELP ME NOW AND I SWEAR I'LL NEVER COME BACK.

FINE.

THE QUINN AND THE CAT! OR MAYBE, ***THE CAT AND THE QUINN,*** WHATEVER WORKS FOR YOU. THIS IS GONNA BE THE BEST...

"...WHAT DO WE DO FIRST?"

"YOU'RE RIGHT...IT IS WELL PAST TIME WE HAD A TALK..."

LEMME UP!

PLEASE!

AHHH!!!

ARE YOU READY TO TALK NOW, RICO?

I KNOW YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SHIPMENTS...

IS HE GOING TO PEE HIMSELF? I BET HE'S GOING TO PEE HIMSELF.

ALTHOUGH, IF HE DOES... IS IT GOING TO GO UP, OR DOWN?

S.A.F.E. HEADQUARTERS. GOTHAM CITY.

...I MUST SAY, I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WITH SAINT INDUSTRIES.

WE'VE KNOWN ONE ANOTHER FOR QUITE SOME TIME, AND ***TEAM PLAYER*** IS NOT EXACTLY A TERM I WOULD HAVE USED TO DESCRIBE YOU.

LOYALTY TO SOMEONE LIKE SIMON SAINT JUST DOESN'T SUIT YOU...

UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE PLANNED, CRANE?

I COULD ASK THE SAME OF YOU, HUGO. SAINT INDUSTRIES FUNDED THIS LITTLE PROJECT OF YOURS TO HELP REFORM THE CLOWNS...

WE'VE KNOWN ONE ANOTHER FOR QUITE SOME TIME AND ***HERO*** IS NOT EXACTLY A TERM I WOULD HAVE USED TO DESCRIBE YOU.

FAIR ENOUGH.

BUT I DIDN'T ASK TO MEET WITH YOU TO DISCUSS THE MERITS OF OUR ***BENEFACTOR'S*** RESOURCES.

I HEARD SOME ***STRANGE*** RUMORS, HUGO...

...***STORIES*** OF ***HARLEY QUINN*** MAKING A MOCKERY OF YOU...

...BREAKING INTO YOUR FACILITY AND RELEASING YOUR... ***PATIENTS.***

BUT, MOST INTERESTING OF ALL, I HEAR YOU'VE HIRED SOMEONE TO STEAL MY FEAR TOXIN.

AND I'M ***VERY*** CURIOUS...WHAT DOES DR. HUGO STRANGE WANT WITH A ***FEAR*** TOXIN, *HM?*

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE HEARD, BUT **I** HAVE NO USE FOR SUCH THINGS.

EVERYONE HAS A USE FOR FEAR, HUGO.

BUT, PERHAPS I SHOULD ASK YOUR *FRIEND* ABOUT THE DRUGS...

MY... *FRIEND?*

COME OUT NOW OR I WILL ENSURE THAT YOU NEVER LEAVE THIS BASEMENT.

WHAT ARE YOU--? THERE'S NO ONE ELSE HERE. I TOLD YOU OUR CONVERSATION WOULD BE COMPLETELY PRI--

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING BACK THERE, ELI?

THE NAME'S ACTUALLY *KEEPSAKE.*

AND I'M GLAD WE COULD FINALLY MEET, *SCARECROW.* IT'S ABOUT TIME WE DISCUSSED THIS CITY'S FUTURE AND HOW YOU AND I CAN *RULE* IT.

EHEM...

I SAID I'M GOING TO HELP YOU TAKE OVER GOTHAM.

WITH ALL THOSE HEAVY HITTERS GONE IN THE ARKHAM INCIDENT... GOTHAM *NEEDS* FRESH BLOOD.

AND NOW THAT I'VE REENGINEERED *YOUR* TOXINS TO HELP CREATE--

MY TOXIN.

YOU STOLE MY TOXIN.

I CAN'T THINK OF ANY REASON WHY I SHOULDN'T KILL YOU...

...UNGH...

CRANE. LET HIM GO.

...:KOFF:...

YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD YOUR FIXATIONS, HUGO, BUT THIS IS JUST SLOPPY.

OOF!

GET OUT, ELI.

KEEP--

OUT!

I DON'T PRETEND TO KNOW YOUR MASTER PLAN, AND I DON'T REALLY CARE.

BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST IF YOU STUCK TO YOUR OWN BUSINESS FROM NOW ON, CRANE.

WHATEVER GAME YOU'RE PLAYING, HUGO...

"...YOU'VE GOT SOME VERY ***UNRELIABLE*** PAWNS ON THE BOARD."

I DIDN'T THINK THAT GUY WOULD REALLY WET HIMSELF...BUT ***WOW.***

I'D SAY WE'VE GOT THE WHOLE GOOD COP, BAD COP ROUTINE DOWN ***PRETTY*** GOOD. BUT NEXT TIME WE INTERROGATE SOMEONE, YOU THINK I COULD TRY BEIN'--

RECON IS A ***QUIET*** ACTIVITY, HARLEY.

RIGHT, RIGHT. SORRY. SO, DO WE JUST CRASH THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT AND THEN ***BAM, BOOM,*** STEAL THE DRUGS?

THERE'S AT LEAST ***FIFTEEN*** GUYS WITH GUNS DOWN THERE...YOU CAN'T JUST EXPECT TO FIGHT THEM ALL WITHOUT SOME KIND OF ***DISTRACTION*** OR--

DISTRACTIONS ARE MY ***SPECIALTY.***

HARLEY, NO...

KJJJJJH

SHE SAID SHE'LL ***NEVER*** COME BACK, SELINA...

OOF!

HOW DO THEY MAKE THAT LOOK SO EASY IN THE MOVIES?

I'VE GOT GLASS IN MY A--

I SUGGEST THAT YOU ALL GET BACK. *NOW.*

UGH...*YOU* MADE THAT LANDING LOOK *SO* COOL.

GET UP, HARLEY.

KLIK

A CLASSIC CAT AND QUINN TEAM-UP!

KRAK

HEY, CAT! WE NEED TO GET TO THE DRUGS.

OOF!

RETRIEVING THINGS IS *MY* SPECIALTY.

THWAK

I'M ON IT.

SHE IS SO COOL.

HURRY UP! THERE'S SOMETHIN' GOIN' ON INSIDE THE WARE--

KRAAAK

HELL NO...

UNGH...

...I'M OUTTA HERE!

AND HERE I WAS THINKING YOU BOYS WERE *STUPID.*

HARLEY WAS RIGHT...THAT'S A LOT OF DRUGS FOR--

CATS AND CLOWNS ARE AN *ODD* PAIR...

...AND I'VE NEVER REALLY CARED FOR EITHER, MYSELF.

WHO ARE *YOU* SUPPOSED TO BE?

YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME, MS. KYLE? AFTER ALL THE GOOD TIMES IN ARKHAM?

I'M OFFENDED.

YAAGH!

THWP

LOCKWOOD.

ARKHAM'S *FAVORITE* ORDERLY!

DEFINITELY THE *CREEPIEST.*

YOU MAY NOT *FEAR* ME NOW, SELINA...

...BUT YOU'RE GOING TO.

HUH?

SELINA, LOOK OUT!

KSSH

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING?

...UNGH...

CAT...?

SAVE THE CLOWN OR STOP *ME*... WHATEVER WILL SHE CHOOSE?

SKREEE

I...I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO...

I'VE GOT YOU.

*REMEMBER HOW I SAID I LIKE ANIMALS THAT LOVE **UNCONDITIONALLY**...?*

WELL, THERE'S SOMETHIN' TO BE SAID ABOUT HAVING TO **EARN** THE TRUST OF ANOTHER CREATURE.

DOGS ARE A GIVEN. THEY LOVE YOU NO MATTER WHAT. BUT CATS...

...CATS ARE NATURALLY SUSPICIOUS.

YOU'RE UP.

YOU'RE **HERE.**

YOU CAN TRY TO **BRIBE** THEM WITH TREATS, OR CATNIP, OR ONE OF THOSE SUPER-EXPENSIVE CAT FORTRESSES THEY SELL AT CHAIN PET STORES...

AND I MADE COFFEE.

YOU BEAUTIFUL, LEATHER-CLAD ANGEL. COFFEE HAS NEVER SMELLED SO GOOD.

MY HEAD IS SCREAMIN'.

BUT THEY'LL STILL KNOW IF YOU'RE A PIECE OF $*€#.

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO FILL ME IN. LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS TAKIN' A FACEFUL OF POISON.

I CALL THAT BAND NAME!

YOU HAVE TO **EARN** A CAT'S TRUST.

THANKS TO BATMAN, I HAVE EMERGENCY POISON ANTIDOTE ON ME. I WASN'T SURE IT WOULD WORK, BUT...

MY TOLERANCE FOR ALL THINGS POISON IS PRETTY HIGH THANKS TO IVY.

RIGHT. THE WAY YOUR HEART RATE JUMPED, I THINK THAT TOXIN WOULD HAVE KILLED ANYONE ELSE... LIKE **ME.**

I TRIED IT. FOR A WHILE. DRAWING THAT LINE BETWEEN GOOD AND BAD...

...BUT IN THE END IT DIDN'T MATTER WHICH SIDE OF THE LINE I WAS ON.

IT WAS...IT WAS NEVER ENOUGH TO MAKE UP FOR THE PAST.

I WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR--

YOU SERIOUSLY NEED **THAT MUCH** SUGAR?

WHAT? YOU DON'T TAKE SUGAR WITH YOUR COFFEE?

BUT IT'S NOT ABOUT THE PAST. IT'S ABOUT THE FUTURE AND TRYING TO MAKE IT A LITTLE BETTER FOR THE PEOPLE I WANT IN THAT FUTURE WITH ME.

JUST MILK.

AND IT'S ABOUT **ME.** ABOUT HOW I FEEL ABOUT MYSELF.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ON THAT JOURNEY, HARLEY...

WHAT YOU SAID BACK IN ALLEYTOWN, SELINA...DID YOU MEAN IT?

ABOUT NOT BEING A HERO?

...BUT I'M ON A DIFFERENT PATH.

I'M GETTING PRETTY USED TO GIVIN' OUT APOLOGIES, AND I OWE YOU... ***A LOT.***

BUT I HOPE ONE DAY I ***CAN*** EARN YOUR TRUST, SELINA.

MAYBE HAVING TO WORK FOR THEIR TRUST ISN'T SUCH A BAD THING.

MAYBE WE CAN EVEN HAVE SOME MORE TEAM-UP ADVENTURES.

LET'S NOT GET AHEAD OF OURSELVES, HARLEY.

SURE, IT TAKES MORE EFFORT THAN GIVING FIDO A PAT ON THE HEAD ONCE IN A WHILE...

WE'LL SEE WHERE THINGS GO.

BUT WHEN A CAT **DOES** TRUST YOU...

SHE'S SO COOL.

...YOU'LL KNOW YOU'VE **EARNED** IT.

OH, DON'T WORRY, RED. I'M SURE ***SOME*** WOMEN PREFER THE BLACK CATSUIT THING...BUT I PREFER MY WOMEN IN ***GREEN.***

FEAR STATE

HEATS UP NEXT MONTH!

ROBSON ROCHA
1980-2021

DC celebrates the life and career of Robson Rocha, known for his artwork on *Aquaman*, *Green Lanterns*, *Supergirl*, *Justice League*, and more.

"An incredibly talented young artist from Brazil, Robson started at DC just 11 years ago and always impressed me with the amazing energy and fluidity of his figurework, the grace of his lines and the power of his compositions. My condolences first and foremost to his widowed wife and daughter, his many peers who admired and respected his talent, and the countless fans around the world who loved and cherished his art."

— Jim Lee
DC Publisher and Chief Creative Officer

©DC

BATMAN: FEAR STATE

DC NATION SPECIAL EDITION

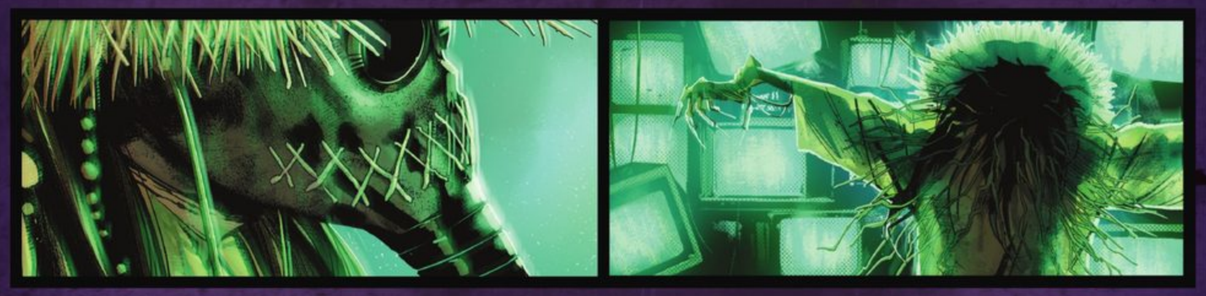
Get an inside look at the terrifying event more than a year in the making

THE SCARECROW SENDS GOTHAM STRAIGHT TO HELL!

™ & © DC

FEAR STATE

"THIS ISN'T AN ATTACK ON BATMAN. THIS IS AN ATTACK ON GOTHAM CITY."



"This isn't an attack on Batman. This is an attack on Gotham City."

These words come from no less of a source than writer James Tynion IV, who alongside superstar artists such as Jorge Jiménez has been reinventing the main *Batman* series since early 2020. This fall, threads building throughout Tynion's run—along with the dystopian Gotham City glimpsed earlier this year in Future State—come to a head in Fear State, a massive event unfolding in *Batman*, *Detective Comics*, *Nightwing*, *Catwoman*, *Harley Quinn*, new series *I Am Batman*, and more—along with multiple one-shot specials and new titles spinning out of the event.

This year in *Batman*, Scarecrow has been plotting alongside mysterious billionaire Simon Saint, who's looking to bring his Magistrate program to Gotham—the same one that made all masked crime-fighting illegal in the potential future of *Future State: The Next Batman*. Saint is attempting to manipulate Mayor Christopher Nakano into approving his squadron of Peacekeepers to dispatch super-villains in brutal fashion, while Scarecrow has his own motives.

"Scarecrow believes that through fear, Gotham City can evolve into something more than it is," Tynion said. "There's a part of him that wants Batman to agree with this core mission. Scarecrow has intuited that Batman faced a great fear, and evolved because of it. He's saying, 'I'm going to do to Gotham City what Gotham City did to you.' He's telling Batman, 'Stand back, let this happen. The world is going to be better for it.' Batman disagrees."

If this sounds like a more effective and ambitious Scarecrow than you've ever seen before…it is.

"SCARECROW IS A CHARACTER THAT I HAVE FELT FOR A LONG TIME HAS DESERVED A REAL A-LIST BATMAN STORY,"

Tynion detailed. "He is such a fascinating character, and he cuts right to the heart of what Bruce is, and Bruce's relationship with fear—and overcoming fear."

Over the course of Fear State, the main story centered on the rise of the Magistrate and Scarecrow's machinations will play out in *Batman*, *Detective Comics*, and one-shots like *Batman Secret Files: Miracle Molly*, starring the breakout character from transhumanist gang the Unsanity Collective.

In *Catwoman*, *Harley Quinn*, and *Batman Secret Files: The Gardener*, Poison Ivy's key role in Fear State will come into focus. As revealed back in *Batman* #109, she's…not quite herself, growing a thick jungle underneath Gotham that's putting the entire city in imminent peril, but Harley's determined to restore Ivy's memory and save the day.

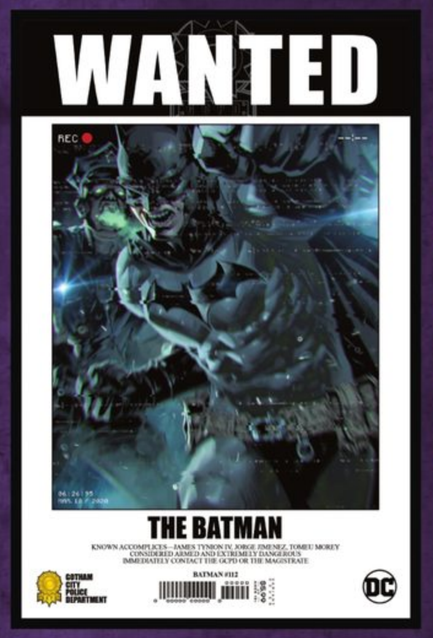
If that's not enough chaos, there's also someone spreading deliberate misinformation among the Bat-family—let's call her the "Anti-Oracle"—as you'll see in the pages of *Nightwing*. And over in *I Am Batman*, the Dark Knight of Future State—Tim "Jace" Fox—embraces his destiny to combat the street-level violence provoked by the Anti-Oracle.

"I wanted to create a massive attack on Gotham City, organized by the Scarecrow, where he doesn't use a single drop of fear toxin on the people of Gotham City," Tynion said. "We're seeing how he manipulates the media, how he manipulates the Magistrate, how he manipulates Batman, the Unsanity Collective—he's taking all of these pieces and putting them together to make the people of Gotham City more frightened than they have ever been."

It's scary stuff, so you'd better be prepared—read on for your guide on how to follow every step of Fear State, culminating in December's *Batman: Fear State: Omega* #1.

™ & © DC

FEAR STATE


WANTED
THE BATMAN
KNOWN ACCOMPLICES—JAMES TYNION IV, JORGE JIMENEZ, TOMEU MOREY
CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE GCPD OR THE MAGISTRATE
BATMAN #112
GOTHAM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

FEAR STATE EXPLODES ACROSS GOTHAM CITY!

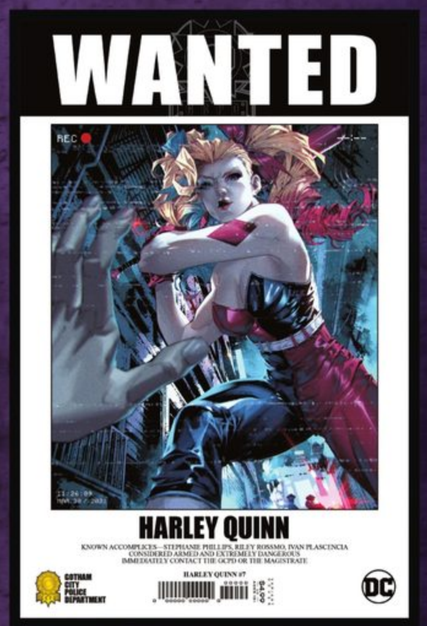
I AM BATMAN

"Jace begins his adventures during the heart of Fear State, which is going to be the comic event of the fall. And next year, we have one more surprise that's going to change the Fox family—and maybe the DC Universe—forever."
—John Ridley

WANTED
CATWOMAN
KNOWN ACCOMPLICES— RAM V, NINA VAKUENKO, JORDIE BELLAIRE
CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE GCPD OR THE MAGISTRATE
CATWOMAN #35
GOTHAM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

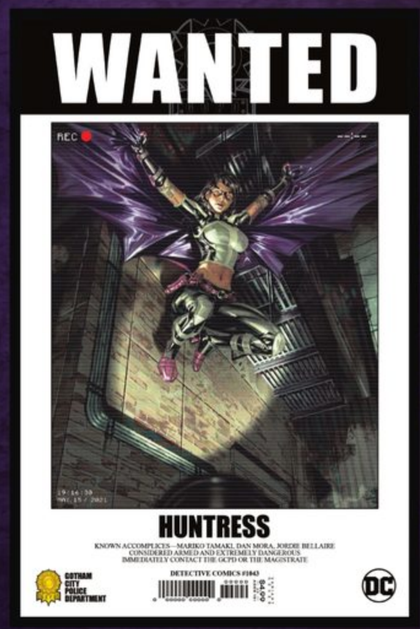
CATWOMAN

"I've always been fascinated by geographical, cultural, and class divides within cities. We label places and people as 'good' or 'bad'—Alleytown is a 'bad' place that is about to become very important to the events that play out in Fear State. And that reflects very well on Catwoman, who defies all the labels that have been put on her over the years."
—Ram V


WANTED
HARLEY QUINN
KNOWN ACCOMPLICES—STEPHANIE PHILLIPS, RILEY ROSSMO, IVAN PLASCENCIA
CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE GCPD OR THE MAGISTRATE
HARLEY QUINN #7
GOTHAM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HARLEY QUINN

"Fear State offers Harley a chance to take a giant step forward and prove herself as a hero despite the many people believing she will fail. It's tough to be a hero when so much is stacked against you, but we get to see how Harley rises to the occasion in her own very Harley kind of way, rekindling some old relationships with familiar faces along the way…"
—Stephanie Phillips


WANTED
HUNTRESS
KNOWN ACCOMPLICES—MARIKO TAMAKI, DAN MORA, JORDIE BELLAIRE
CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE GCPD OR THE MAGISTRATE
DETECTIVE COMICS #1043
GOTHAM CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

DETECTIVE COMICS

"To me, a huge part of working in this world is digging into different levels of fear. For this story line, we're going deep and creepy. We're taking Batman and Nakano to a place that is falling apart and lined with rows of tiny sharp teeth."
—Mariko Tamaki

NIGHTWING

"With the Magistrate on the streets and in the air, Gotham is on a knife's edge, and there are no shadows for Nightwing to operate in any longer. The Dynamic Duo will fight side by side again as Batman and Nightwing. And Nightwing and Oracle will team up with other members of the Bat-family to wrestle control of Gotham back from the mysterious anti-Oracle."
—Tom Taylor

™ & © DC

BATMAN: FEAR STATE

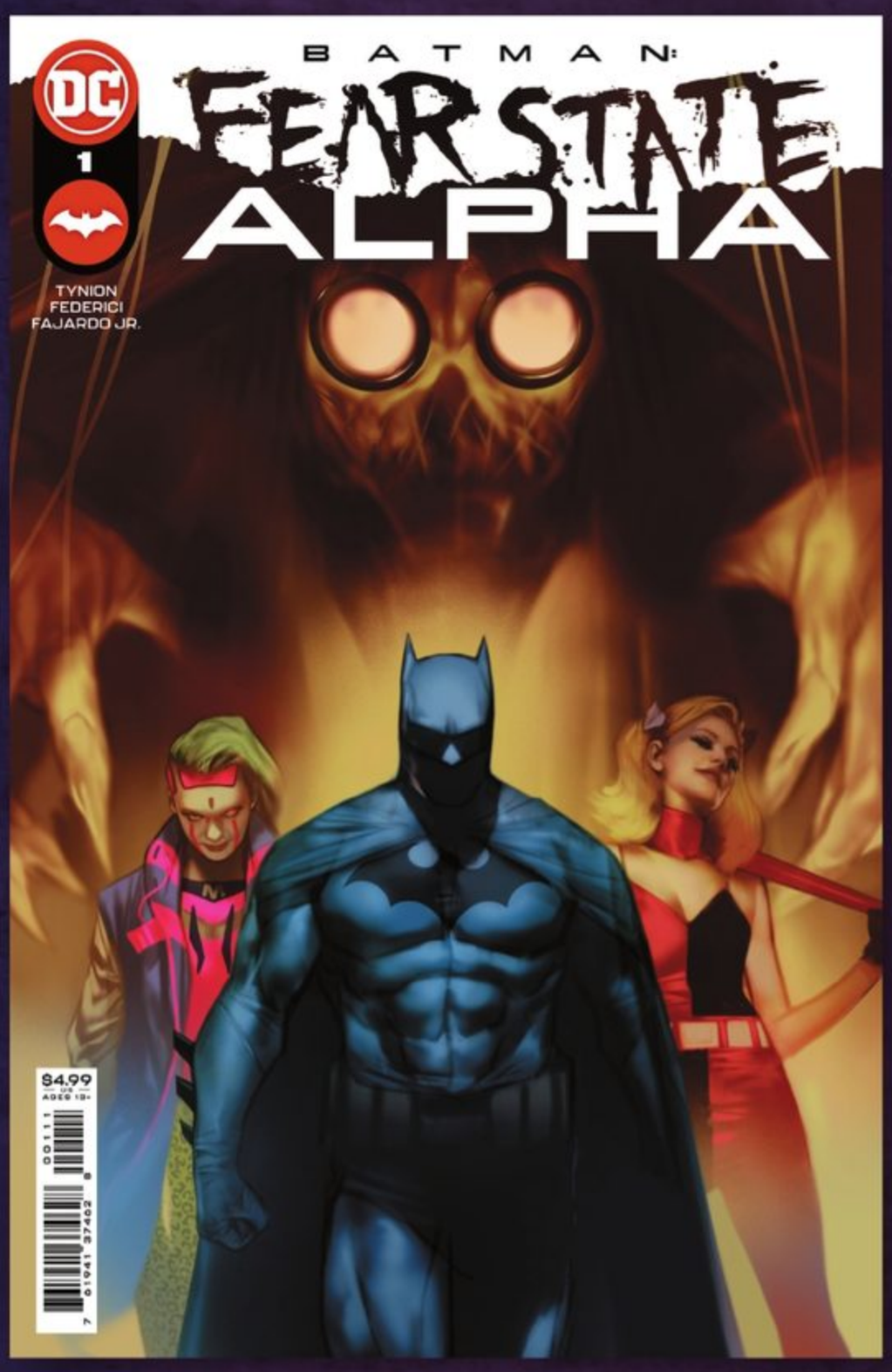
™ & © DC

CHECKLIST

THIS FALL, THE SCARECROW SENDS GOTHAM STRAIGHT TO HELL!

AUGUST

- ☐ *I AM BATMAN* #0
- ☐ *CATWOMAN* #34
- ☐ *HARLEY QUINN* #6
- ☐ *BATMAN: FEAR STATE: ALPHA* #1



SEPTEMBER

- ☐ *BATMAN* #112
- ☐ *I AM BATMAN* #1
- ☐ *BATMAN* #113
- ☐ *BATMAN SECRET FILES: MIRACLE MOLLY* #1
- ☐ *CATWOMAN* #35
- ☐ *NIGHTWING* #84
- ☐ *DETECTIVE COMICS* #1043
- ☐ *HARLEY QUINN* #7

OCTOBER

- ☐ *BATMAN* #114
- ☐ *ARKHAM CITY: THE ORDER OF THE WORLD* #1
- ☐ *BATMAN: URBAN LEGENDS* #8
- ☐ *I AM BATMAN* #2
- ☐ *BATMAN* #115
- ☐ *BATMAN SECRET FILES: PEACEKEEPER* #1
- ☐ *CATWOMAN* #36
- ☐ *NIGHTWING* #85
- ☐ *DETECTIVE COMICS* #1044
- ☐ *HARLEY QUINN* #8
- ☐ *TASK FORCE Z* #1

NOVEMBER

- ☐ *BATMAN* #116
- ☐ *ARKHAM CITY* #2
- ☐ *BATMAN: URBAN LEGENDS* #9
- ☐ *I AM BATMAN* #3
- ☐ *BATMAN* #117
- ☐ *BATMAN SECRET FILES: THE GARDENER* #1
- ☐ *CATWOMAN* #37
- ☐ *NIGHTWING* #86
- ☐ *DETECTIVE COMICS* #1045
- ☐ *HARLEY QUINN* #9
- ☐ *TASK FORCE Z* #2

DECEMBER

- ☐ *BATMAN: FEAR STATE: OMEGA* #1

DC

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

BATMAN: FEAR STATE ALPHA

INTERVIEW WITH JAMES TYNION IV

Threads that have been building all year in *Batman* plus the authoritarian Gotham City seen in *Future State* collide in all sorts of terrifying ways this fall in the *Batman: Fear State* event, which starts with the *Batman: Fear State: Alpha* #1 one-shot from writer James Tynion IV and artist Riccardo Federici.

What is your deepest fear?

I get really frightened by society—particularly, all of the different ways in which the world we live in feels like it's not working in this part of the 21st century. The deep antagonism that comes from that fear that I think everyone has: that tomorrow might not be as nice as yesterday. Those fears are what drove a lot of the building for Fear State.

You've distinguished yourself as a horror writer in recent years—which genre elements are you mining with Fear State?

The benefit of a character like Scarecrow is, he can take these fears that are very abstract and he can make them literal. He can make them feel very present in front of you. Scarecrow understands fear inside and out. And he understands Batman pretty well, too. He knows exactly how to get under Batman's skin. Scarecrow believes that through fear, Gotham City can evolve into something more than it is. There's a part of him that wants Batman to agree with his core mission.

Scarecrow has intuited that there's a part of Batman that faced a great fear, and he evolved because of it. He's saying, "I'm going to do to Gotham City what Gotham City did to you. Why are you standing in my way? Isn't this what you want?" He's basically telling Batman, "Stand back, let this happen. The world is going to be better for it." Batman disagrees.

The Magistrate reflects real-world fears—how have you enjoyed exploring that side of the story?

Peacekeeper-01 is from a family of police officers who were kicked off of the force when Jim Gordon finally rooted out a lot of the deep corruption in the Gotham City Police Department. There's this resentment that's been building in him, that his path as a great hero has been stopped by men like Batman.

Scarecrow knows exactly how to push him over the edge to really, truly make the people of Gotham City afraid.

DON'T MISS *BATMAN: FEAR STATE: ALPHA* #1 ON SALE AUGUST 31!

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics DANIEL CHERRY III Senior VP – General Manager JIM LEE Publisher & Chief Creative Officer JOEN CHOE VP – Global Brand & Creative Services DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations & Workflow Management LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Talent Services ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration & Design NANCY SPEARS VP – Revenue

HARLEY QUINN 6. October, 2021. Published monthly by DC Comics, 2900 W. Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91505. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2021 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dccomics.com/go/ratings. DC – a WarnerMedia Company.

ZONE